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Friday, October 10, 2008

Mr. Peter Roth Senior Assistant Attorney General Attorney General Department of Justice 33 Capitol Street Concord, NH 03301-6397

Dear Mr. Roth,

It was a genuine pleasure to meet you in person at the recent Wind Farm Site Evaluation Committee meeting held in Groveton, NH. As I mentioned to you after the meeting, the citizens of Millsfield are extremely concerned that future meetings regarding this project will be held in Concord instead of Coos County.

This project is proposed to be built largely in Millsfield, not in Concord. For any of the citizens of Millsfield to attend the recent meeting in Groveton, it was at least an hour's drive each way. I got home after 11:30 that night after the meeting. Although Groveton is quite a distance from Millsfield, it seems unconscionable to us that future meetings will be held in Concord.

From our perspective, this whole project is quickly being forced upon the citizens of Millsfield without anyone considering the viewpoint of the good people who will ultimately live in the midst of this project. County officials are loudly proclaiming that they are totally in favor of the project. Did anyone from the County ask anyone from Millsfield what their perspective is? No! Councilor Ray Burton is loudly proclaiming that he is in favor of this project. Did Councilor Burton ever take the time to poll the citizens of Millsfield to ask them their opinion on the matter? No!

Tax deals are being struck by the county, money that should be going to the citizens of Millsfield is apparently being pocketed by the county (most recently the \$75,000.00 initial payment in lieu of taxes). Government officials seem to be in a tax feeding frenzy, and no one is taking the time to talk with the citizens of Millsfield.

When I questioned you after the meeting as to why future meetings were being held in Concord, you answered that Concord is where all of the officials deciding the matter live. Please understand that the wind park that is being proposed is not being proposed to be built where these officials live. It is being proposed for Millsfield!

The citizens of Millsfield are already disenfranchised from the project because no one is talking to us. At the most recent Groveton meeting we could write questions onto cards in advance. The Millsfield questions and Millsfield concerns had to do with the areas of taxation. Were our questions directed to the County officials in charge of tax deals? No! The question was put to the applicant who has nothing to do with assessments, taxes, etc. When our question was not answered were we allowed to vocalize a follow-up question? No! All questions had to be in writing on index cards.

In short, even at the meeting held in Groveton, the citizens of Millsfield were not allowed to actually question the issues that most concern them. And now the Site Evaluation Committee is planning on taking future meetings to Concord? If we can't express our concerns in Coos County in Groveton, then how in the world are we supposed to stand a chance at expressing our concerns when the meetings are being held in Concord?

The County claims that under New Hampshire laws, the County acts as selectman for unincorporated areas. But none of the County officials live in an unincorporated area. When we ask County officials about matters of taxation, we are told that we have no say in what they do because they can do what they want. We have no say in matters pertaining to spending.

These officials are elected by the county <u>at large</u> and as our selectman are only answerable to the <u>County at large</u>, not to the citizens of Millsfield. The vast majority of the population of Coos County which elects these officials does not live in unincorporated areas. They live in Berlin, Colebrook, Gorham, etc. In short, their interests are in no way similar to the interests of the citizens of Millsfield. Because the votes that elect these officials come from outside of Millsfield, their allegiance is to the voters that elected them, not to the citizens that will be most affected by their decisions. This is taxation without representation, but we are told that unless we incorporate (a daunting proposition that does not make sense with just a handful of voters), we have no say in any of these matters.

So if the County (acting as our selectman) will not listen to us. And the Site Evaluation Committee won't listen to us when their one and only Coos County meeting is held in Groveton, how are our concerns going to be addressed when all future meetings are held in Concord? This is not a government of the people, by the people and for the people. It seems to be a government of the officials, by the officials and for the officials.

For the above reasons, the citizens of Millsfield respectfully petition to you and to the Site Evaluation Committee to hold all future meetings regarding this Wind Park in Coos County and not in Concord. Attached is a petition signed by 100% of the residents of Millsfield requesting that all future meetings, hearings, solicitations of public input, be conducted in Coos County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne R. Urso

The below named citizens respectfully petition to the State of New Hampshire, Site Evaluation Committee, that all future meetings and hearings pertaining to the proposed Coos County wind farm be held in Coos County.

Name	Signature	Date
Thomas J. Claflin	Thomas J. Claffer	10/14/08
Louise Cote	Louis Cote	10/14/08
Luc Cote	Luc lots	10/14/08
Shawn Cote	Lun Coto	10/14/09
Victoria Cote	Vater & Col	10/14/08
Joanne Dionne	Joans Dions	10-14-08
Jacqueline Hines	Jacquelini M. Hines	10/14/08
Roland Proulx	Meg	10/14/08
Pome low Carrol Pommerleau	Care A Tomelow)	10/14/08
Charles Sheldon	charle Delle	col10108
Sonja Sheldon	Sozia M. Lalden	10-12-08
Lewis Sweatt	Levy Sweath	10/14/08
Paula Sweatt	Peula Sueatt	10/14/08
Kathleen Urso		10/14/08
Wayne R. Urso	Wayne R Uns	10/10/2008